

ABSTRACTTELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKSint  
B2

A telecommunications network includes a service platform 16 which  
5 provides a network based call answering service available to connected telephone  
lines 3 of the digital network. Calls may be selectively diverted to the service  
platform for answering in dependence on the customer preference. Where multiple  
customers are present at a particular line 3 the service platform 16 is responsive to  
characteristics of incoming networks calls (for example calling line identity or  
10 response to prompt and collect signalling) to associate a message deposited during  
the same call with a particular one of the customers at line 3.

Figure (i)